

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 190410

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY/HLK  
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY  
NEA - MR. ATHERTON  
S/S J.HOGANSON

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O 010655Z AUG 76 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 190410

NODIS  
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

YAGS: PFOR, EG, SY, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR FAHMY ON MURPHY'S CONSULTATIONS

REF: CAIRO 10248, STATE 180073

1. IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER MESSAGES YOU HAVE FOR FAHMY ON AUGUST 2, PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING TO HIM FOR ME.
2. AS HERMANN INFORMED YOU EARLIER, I CALLED AMBASSADOR MURPHY BACK TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS DURING THIS PAST WEEK TO GET THE CLEAREST POSSIBLE PICTURE OF THE LEBANESE SITUATION, AND THE ROLE OF THE SOVIET UNION, AS THE SYRIANS THEMSELVES SEE IT. MURPHY IS NOW RETURNING TO DAMASCUS.

3. BEFORE COMING BACK TO WASHINGTON, MURPHY DISCUSSED THE SITUATION THOROUGHLY WITH KHADDAM, SINCE ASAD WAS UNABLE TO SEE MURPHY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. KHADDAM CONFIRMED THE GENERAL LINES OF THE REPORT WE HAD HAD EARLIER FROM

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HUSSEIN. IN PARTICULAR, KHADDAM CHARACTERIZED THE SITUATION

IN LEBANON AS VERY DANGEROUS, AND SAID IT WAS BEING AGGRAVATED BY THE MAJOR INFLUX OF WEAPONS, IN WHICH THE SOVIETS WERE CLOSELY INVOLVED. KHADDAM, HOWEVER, MADE NO SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR A REACTION ON OUR PART.

4. IN CONSIDERING THE SITUATION WITH MURPHY, WE FELT CONFIRMED IN OUR EARLIER JUDGMENT THAT IT IS IN OUR INTEREST, AND CONSISTENT WITH PRESIDENT SADAT'S AND OUR LONG-RUN STRATEGY, TO AVOID THE ENHANCEMENT OF SOVIET INFLUENCE OVER SYRIAN POLICY. MURPHY WILL THEREFORE CONFIRM TO ASAD THAT WE ARE INTERESTED IN SYRIA'S MAINTAINING ITS ABILITY TO PURSUE AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL POLICY BUT WILL MAKE NO SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS OR OFFERS.

5. IN SUM, OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH MURPHY DID NOT THROW ANY REALLY NEW LIGHT ON THE SITUATION OR SUGGEST ANY PARTICULAR STEPS WE MIGHT BE TAKING. I LOOK FORWARD TO MY TALK WITH HERMANN IN TEHRAN, OF WHICH HE WILL HAVE INFORMED YOU, AND TO WHATEVER PRESIDENT SADAT AND YOU WISH TO CONVEY THROUGH HIM.

6. I SEND MY WARM GOOD WISHES TO FAHMY, AND AS ALWAYS WOULD WELCOME HIS THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CAT-C, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS, DEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION, POLITICAL S ITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE190410  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARDAY/HLK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** I  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 2  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760898/aaaadich.tel  
**Line Count:** 84  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 76 CAIRO 10248, 76 STATE 180073  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** LOCK1  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MESSAGE FOR FAHMY ON MURPHY'S CONSULTATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, SY, US, UR, LE, (SADAT, ANWAR), (MURPHY, RICHARD W), (FAHMY, ISMAIL), (KHADDANM ABD AL-HALIM)  
**To:** CAIRO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006